

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8, line 11, with the following paragraph showing changes.

The levels in the exemplary table 30 can also be subdivided into three separate constellations: a basic constellation 42, a positive constellation 44, and a negative constellation 46.

The basic constellation 42 extends into both the positive and negative directions from an amplitude level of zero. Typically, the basic constellation extends an equal distance from amplitude zero into both the positive and negative directions. The positive constellation 44 extends from the maximum level of the basic constellation upwards, and the negative constellation 46 extends from the minimum level of the basic constellation downwards. For example, as shown in FIG. 2, the basic constellation includes the amplitudes  $\{2, 1, -1, -2\}$ , or alternatively the basic constellation includes the indexes  $\{2, 1, -1, -2\}$ . The positive constellation includes the amplitudes  $\{3, 5, 7, 9\}$  or the indexes  $\{3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . The negative constellation includes the amplitudes  $\{-3, -5, -7, -9\}$  or the indexes  $\{-3, -4, -5, -6\}$ . In a preferred embodiment of the invention, the basic constellation includes a set of indexes extending from  $-k$  to  $k$ ; the positive constellation includes a set of indexes ~~indices~~ extending from  $k+1$  to  $3k$ ; and the negative constellation includes a set of indexes ~~indices~~ extending from  $-k-1$  to  $-3k$ .